

Hog Prices: ↑ Soymeal: ↔

Corn: ↑ CDN Dollar: ↓

US Slaughter	
476,000	Thursday
465,000	Year Ago
Daily Prices	
W. Corn Belt	\$46.17
National	\$58.37
Iowa/S. MN.	\$46.53
ML Signature 5	\$125.74
HyLife (prev. day)	\$137.11
TCP/BP2	\$125.74
BoC Rate (Noon) prev. day \$1.3359 CAD / \$0.7486 USD	
Cash Prices Week Ending December 15th, 2018	
Signature 3	113.58/51.52
Signature 4	139.16/63.12
Signature 5 Brandon	126.37/57.32
h@ms Cash	N/A
HyLife	N/A
TCP/BP2 Moose Jaw/Langley	128.26/58.18
2018 Top-Up Estimate	
\$6.10 ckg (call for details)	
ISO Weans \$56.76 US Avg.	
Feeder Pigs \$60.89 US Avg.	

Forward contract prices opened higher this morning. US cash markets are closing the week in a mixed pattern with WCB and ISM reporting regions slightly higher (\$0.32 USD/cwt on average) while National is slightly lower (\$0.16 USD) than the previous day. The strength is supported by the cut-out value which mostly increased in value; the only exception was picnics which came in \$0.38 USD/cwt lower on the day. The frequently volatile belly primal is leading the carcass values at \$129.60 USD. The nearby lean hog futures contracts opened this morning just under 2% higher than the previous session in a move upward that hasn't been seen all week. Thoughts that 'outside' money is moving into commodities is underpinning the support as the fundamental picture has not particularly changed and the market has received no new information that would drastically change the outlook for lean hog futures. Mexican and Chinese pork tariffs remain in place, although there is some recent optimism on the international trade front. All considered, the move means contracts for a 42-week fixed forward strategy in Canadian dollars have rose approximately \$2 CAD/ckg at the open, although values have since backed off as of this writing.

Canadian delivered soymeal prices opened even this morning. US soybean futures are trading modestly higher to start the last session of the week and have not been able to gain any real traction despite the announcement of new sales commitments from China. While improving sales numbers are a good sign, the market was 'hoping' for much larger volumes. Depending on the source, between 500,000MT and 1.3 MMT in purchases have been announced by state and private entities. However, rumor has it the market was expecting a number closer to 5.0 MMT (!) and the market's current 'reaction' would likely confirm this expectation.

US corn futures opened higher this morning. The less dramatic US corn futures trade continues to push ever so slightly higher and is starting the last session of the week near the upper end of the range that was established in October. There are some technical resistance levels that need to be broken in order for the commodity to rally higher, but it is currently flirting with those upper levels. Fundamentally there is not much to support a move higher than the resistance levels, so watching news feeds will be key. However, if the steel and aluminum tariff issue is ever resolved, the market would likely seek out a new upper range limit as Mexico is the number one buyer of US corn.

Forward Range (at opening)	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Maple Leaf Sig. #5		141.49 147.63	151.01 154.38	153.49 159.27	160.56 168.02	167.06 181.32	182.28 195.38	190.37 193.06	179.59 194.30	161.90 169.04	155.33 159.00
Soymeal Wpg/S.Man	458	458	462	464	471	471					

This bulletin is intended as a marketing tool for subscribed members only. Prices are not quotes and all pricing is subject to verification. Opinions expressed do not guarantee future events or performance. Unauthorized distribution is strictly prohibited.

follow us @hamsmarketing

twitter

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS